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# NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENSE COMMAND

## Weekly Intelligence Review

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# NORAD

Weekly  
Intelligence  
Review

Issue No. 24/64, 12 June 1964

## The WIR in Brief

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### Space

GOSMOS 31 LAUNCHED 6 JUNE, 3d SUCCESS-  
FUL KY LAUNCH THIS YEAR

The 14th successful KY Cosmos launch.  
SOVIET SPACE VEHICLES LISTED. OVER-  
ALL SPACE REPORT PRESENTED

As of 8 June:

COSMOS 32 LAUNCHED FROM TYURATAM.  
FIRST TO HAVE INCLINATION OF 51 DEGREES

Could afford better photoreconnaissance  
coverage of US.

COVER: Soviet aircrew and BADGER bomber  
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NOTE: Pages 26, 27, 30, 31, and 34 of this  
issue are blank.

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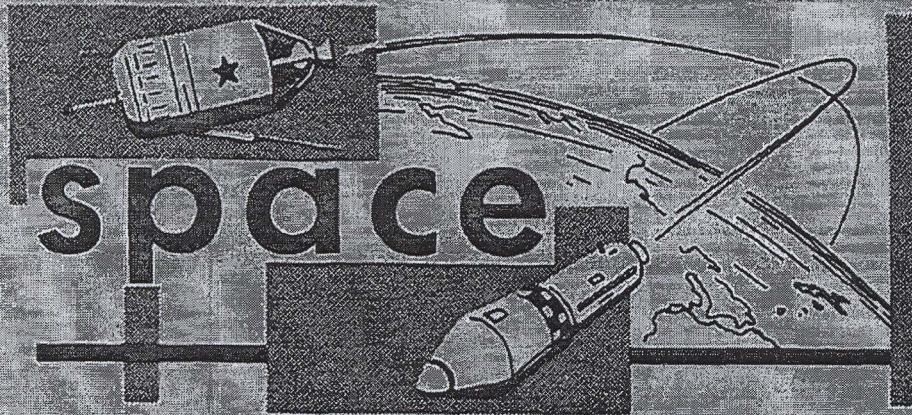
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significant  
intelligence  
on space  
developments  
and trends

### Cosmos 31 Launched 6 June, 3d Successful KY Launch This Year

The Soviets launched the space vehicle Cosmos 31 from the Kapustin Yar (KY) missile test range at about 0602Z, 6 June 1964. Its orbital parameters have been reported initially as follows:

|                        | <u>SPADATS</u>          | <u>TASS</u>          |
|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Inclination to Equator | 48.93 degrees           | 49 degrees           |
| Orbital period         | 91.58 minutes           | 91.6 minutes         |
| Apogee                 | 490.34 km<br>(265 n.m.) | 508 km<br>(278 n.m.) |
| Perigee                | 223.89 km<br>(121 n.m.) | 228 km<br>(123 n.m.) |

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Cosmos 31 is the 14th successful launch of a Cosmos-series vehicle from Kapustin Yar; 6 were launched in 1962, 5 in 1963, and 3 so far in 1964.

The Soviets announced the existence of Cosmos 31 about 6 hours after launch. They said that it was carrying on the usual scientific research program of the Cosmos-series vehicles. However, the relatively low altitudes of the 3 successful launches of 1964, when compared with the broad ranges of altitudes of previous KY Cosmoses, suggest an interest in the spatial environment at the altitudes at which manned space flight occurs rather than in the near-Earth space environment as a whole.

Cosmos 31 has been given the international designation 1964-28. Its payload is also known as SPADATS Object No. 803.

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## Soviet Space Vehicles Listed; Over-all Space Report Presented

Soviet payloads still in space as of 1300Z, 8 June 1964, are listed on page 33, together with certain orbital data, life expectancies, and announced or intercepted transmitting frequencies.

The over-all space vehicle situation as of 8 June 1964 follows:

|                                 | <u>US</u> | <u>UK</u> | <u>Can</u> | <u>USSR</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Payloads in Earth orbit         | 86        | 2         | 1          | 8           | 97           |
| Payloads in Sun orbit           | 5         |           |            | 4           | 9            |
| Payloads in Earth-Moon orbit    |           |           |            | 1           | 1            |
| Payloads resting on the Moon    | 2         |           |            | 1           | 3            |
| Pieces of debris in Earth orbit | 308       |           | 2          | 9           | 319          |
| Pieces of debris in Sun orbit   | <u>4</u>  | <u>—</u>  | <u>—</u>   | <u>—</u>    | <u>4</u>     |

|                                |     |   |   |     |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|---|---|-----|-----|
| Total manmade objects in space | 405 | 2 | 3 | 23  | 433 |
| Objects decayed or de-orbited  | 191 |   |   | 183 | 374 |

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## Cosmos 32 Launched from Tyuratam; First to Have Inclination of 51 Degrees

Cosmos 32 was launched from the Tyuratam (TT) missile test range at about 1100Z, 10 June.

It is too early, as of this writing, to give refined orbital data for this vehicle, but it can be stated that its orbital inclination -- a nominal 51 degrees -- is the lowest yet of any space vehicle launched from TT. All space vehicles previously launched from TT have uniformly had inclinations of 65 degrees, except for the Polyots and Electrons, which had launch inclinations of 59-61 degrees.

The reason for this relatively low orbital inclination is not known yet. Such an inclination is better than the 65-degree inclination, which characterized previous TT-launched Cosmoses, for photoreconnaissance of the United States; that is, passes over the US will afford, on the average, more photographic coverage. A photoreconnaissance mission has been estimated for some -- if not most or all -- of the TT Cosmoses. Cosmos 32 could well have such a mission, for it was launched at a time of day favorable for photoreconnaissance of the US. On the other hand, recovery may be more difficult for a 51-degree orbit than for the usual 65-degree one.

TASS has announced that Cosmos 32 is performing the usual Cosmos mission of collecting and transmitting data on the near-Earth space environment.

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# Soviet Space Vehicle Listing (as of 8 Jun)

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## Soviet Vehicles in Earth Orbit

| International Designation | Common Name | Launch Date | Inclination to Equator | Period (Minutes) | Apogee (Kilometers) | Perigee | Life Expectancy or Decay Date | Transmitting Frequencies (mc/s) |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1963-17A                  | Cosmos 17   | 22 May 63   | 49°                    | 94.6             | 609.2               | 248.2   | Aug 1965                      |                                 |
| 1963-43A                  | Polyot 1    | 1 Nov 63    | 58.95°                 | 102.4            | 1400.5              | 343.4   | Over 30 yrs                   |                                 |
| 1964-6A                   | Electron 1  | 30 Jan 64   | 60.65°                 | 169.3            | 7186.7              | 334.1   | Over 30 yrs                   |                                 |
| 1964-6B                   | Electron 2  | 30 Jan 64   | 60.82°                 | 1346.6           | 64018.0             | 468.0   | Over 30 yrs                   |                                 |
| 1964-10A                  | Cosmos 25   | 27 Feb 64   | 49.04°                 | 93.55            | 654.4               | 273.1   | Apr 65                        |                                 |
| 1964-13A                  | Cosmos 26   | 18 Mar 64   | 49.02°                 | 90.99            | 433.4               | 241.3   | Oct 64                        |                                 |
| 1964-19B                  | Polyot 2    | 12 Apr 64   | 58.04°                 | 92.29            | 492.3               | 308.5   | Over 5 yrs                    |                                 |
| 1964-28                   | Cosmos 31   | 6 Jun 64    | 49.02°                 | 91.72            | 511.6               | 230.7   | Late Aug 64                   |                                 |

## Soviet Vehicles in Heliocentric (Sun) Orbit

|              |             |           | Inclination to Ecliptic | Period (Days) | Aphelion (in AUs)* | Perihelion |            |
|--------------|-------------|-----------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------|------------|------------|
| 1961 Mu 1    | Lunik 1     | 2 Jan 59  | 0.01°                   | 449.4         | 1.315              | 0.9766     | Indefinite |
| 1961 Gamma   | Venus probe | 12 Feb 61 | 0.58°                   | 300           | 1.019              | 0.7183     | Indefinite |
| 1962 B, Nu 3 | Mars 1      | 1 Nov 62  | 2.683°                  | 519           | 1.604              | 0.9237     | Indefinite |
| 1964-16      | Zond 1      | 2 Apr 64  | (Not Available)         |               |                    |            | Indefinite |

## Soviet Vehicles in Barycentric (Earth-Moon) Orbit

|         |         |          |                |  |  |  |  |
|---------|---------|----------|----------------|--|--|--|--|
| 1963-8B | Lunik 4 | 2 Apr 63 | (Not Computed) |  |  |  |  |
|---------|---------|----------|----------------|--|--|--|--|

## Soviet Vehicles Resting on Surface of the Moon

|           |         |           |                  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|---------|-----------|------------------|--|--|--|--|
| 1961 Xi 1 | Lunik 2 | 12 Sep 59 | (Not Applicable) |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|---------|-----------|------------------|--|--|--|--|

AU -- astronomical units; roughly 1 AU = 93 million miles (mean distance from Earth to Sun).

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